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11-5-1962

1962-11-05, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords

1962-11-05

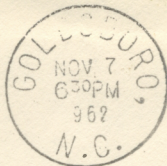
Identifier

2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1962-11-05

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112 Chestover
Goldboro NC.



Air mail



Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Harris
1717 Highland Avenue
Knoxville 16
Tennessee

5 November 1962
Monday a.m.

Dear Mom and Daddy,

Am still a lonesome alpha. Ray had a couple of fellows call me - one Saturday and one Sunday morn - each one had just talked to him in Florida. He said he might get to come home Wednesday; so I hope things continue to improve down South.

We are still on an alert status here; so there is no chance of my getting over to Knoxville for my long weekend - 10, 11 & 12 Nov. I wish you and Daddy could come over to visit us. All leaves and passes have been cancelled until further notice here.

I mailed a birthday card to Helen today so I guess it will get there for 10 November. I imagine she wonders about not getting presents from old Betty anymore, but old Betty doesn't spend her money like it was going out of style - she doesn't have it.

We won't be getting a car right away

Mom, so don't fret - we feel as uneasy about the future as you do - but we can't stop living can we?

We still haven't ordered any more living room furniture except our divan and chair. The cocktail table and end tables we wanted to order we haven't gotten yet due to being unable to see samples of the wood. So we'll just wait on that - but the divan + chair should be coming in another week or so. I sort of lost interest in it during all this mess.

8¹⁵ AM - Tuesday

Since I talked to you last night, I may as well tell you about our alert we were on. There were 6 Flight Nurses and 18 Medical technicians alerted to go as a field hospital unit. We were told to be ready on a 2-hour standby. We were issued a complete field pack with Blankets, Mess Kit, flash light, and Helment. We were ordered to buy fatigues like the army

and Castro are missing. When Ray got home the day I was alerted, he almost had a fit. I guess it was the first time he realized I was in the military for better or worse too. Anyway we sat on the telephones for nearly two weeks and they finally let us revert to a H8-Hour alert, which we're still on. Ray is still on a 2 hr one where he is - so I don't know how much better our situation really is.

7 Nov. 10³⁰ AM -

He called me last night as did his mother and Father. He still doesn't know if he will be home soon or not. I begged for this weekend since we have the 3 days off; so he's going to try. Marie's husband is still away too - they were supposed to see each other - (he and Ray) today.

I want to get this in the mail, so I'll quit before another day passes.

Please come visit if it isn't snowing on the mountain

Love,
Bette